to be used for terrorism anywhere in the world and not to allow any organization to indulge in terrorism in the name of Kashmir.

Meeting of Indian experts with American law-makers

1694. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR.AKHILESHDAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian team of experts visited U.S. for consultations with American law-makers and specialists and had made a strong case for U.S. holding Pakistan on a tight leash on the terrorism front;

(b) if so, the composition of the team and the success it met with;

(c) whether in spite of India's withdrawal of Navy, the Pakistani militants continued their attacks on pilgrims and Hindu minority in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the activities of militants in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is aware that, as part of the broad-based engagement between India and the United States, a number of independent experts from India visit the United States and interact with U.S. law-makers, officials and experts on bilateral, regional and international issues, including on the issue of cross-border terrorism from Pakistan.

The U.S. Government has repeatedly said that Pakistan must stop cross-border infiltration immediately and permanently and take action against terrorist camps, and has further said that it has received assurances from President Musharraf in this regard. Government has noted that leading U.S. Congressmen have asked the U.S. Government to take effective steps to ensure that President Musharraf fulfils his commitments to stop cross-border terrorism against India.

(c) Notwithstanding the commitment by President Musharraf on 12 January, 2002 and repeated on 27 May, 2002 as also his pledge to the United States, infiltration and terrorist incidents continue in Jammu & Kashmir.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to check infiltration and fight terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, and its engagement with the international community in this regard, will continue to be in place till there is a permanent cessation of cross-border terrorism from Pakistan.

Assistance to Afghanistan

1695. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of all types of aid and assistance given to Afghanistan for its reconstruction;

(b) the terms and conditions of such an assistance;

(c) whether India is involved in any manner in Afghanistan's political process and its reconstruction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) India is committed to providing and has provided extensive humanitarian, project and financial assistance to Afghanistan. Government has announced a financial commitment of US$ 100 million for reconstruction and rehabilitation projects in Afghanistan. Out of this, on 10th July, 2002, the government transferred a sum of US$ 10 million into the account of Afghan government as budget subsidy. In addition, during the visit of H.E. Mr Hamid Karzai, Chairman of then Afghan Interim Administration to India in February this year, Prime Minister had announced an assistance of US$ 10 million for various project related assistance to Afghanistan. Some of the major projects that have been implemented include supply of medical stores and medical services; artificial limbs center in Kabul; gifting of 50 buses to the Afghan government; training of Afghan diplomats at the Foreign Service Institute in New Delhi; deputation of English Language teachers to Afghanistan; computerization of Afghan Foreign Ministry; setting up of computer training center in Kabul, and training of Afghan Police Officers and cadets in India. Projects under consideration include in the fields of Water and Power, Agriculture, Education, Information and Broadcasting and Road Construction.

Government is also in the process of finalizing details for handing over of three aircraft from Air India to Ariana Afghan Airlines.